(b) if so, the objectives of the visit;

(c) the agreements signed during the said visit and the extent to which this visit had been successful; and

(d) the steps taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Home Minister Shri L.K. Advani accompanied by a high level official delegation visited USA from 8th January to 13th January, 2002 at the invitation of the U.S. Attorney General.

(b) and (c) During his visit, Home Minister held a comprehensive dialogue with his US interlocutors on the global dimensions of the terrorism in India and Pakistan's role and responsibility in the context of the attack on the Parliament of India on 13.12.2001. No agreements were signed during the visit.

(d) New areas of cooperation in the field of counter terrorism have been identified in the Fourth meeting of the Joint Working Group held in January, 2002 and appropriate steps initiated.

Dual Citizenship to NRIs

*98. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to grant dual citizenship to persons of Indian origin residing abroad;

(b) if so, the citizens of which countries would be granted such facilities; and

(c) whether they would enjoy voting rights in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) A proposal in this regard is being examined.

Establishment of Bureau of Energy Efficiency

*99. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have established the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE);

(b) if so, what is their action plan for implementation of ESCO (Energy Service Company) scheme and awareness campaign scheme;

(c) whether Government are going to adopt the cost sharing NICE3 (National Industrial Competitiveness through Energy, Environment and Economics) scheme of US department of energy, to promote energy efficiency; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has notified the establishment of Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) with effect from the 1st March, 2002.

(b) The action plan for implementation of Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) is given below:—

(i) Under the ECO (Energy Conservation and Commercialization) project funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID), energy service companies are being promoted. In this project monitoring and verification protocols, model performance contract agreements which are the key elements for development of ESCO scheme, are also being developed.

(ii) Under the Indo-German Energy Efficiency and Environment Project (IGEEP) ESCOs are also proposed to be promoted through the concept of performance-based contracting by developing at least 5 such performance contracts.

(iii) The BEE is to promote performance-based contracts and energy service companies, innovative financing, leveraging of equity for ESCOs, risk cover, etc., to facilitate development of ESCOs in the country.

As regards awareness campaign, no stand-alone programme is proposed. Awareness creation is proposed to be in-built in every element of project & programme of BEE.

(c) and (d) The BEE would consider innovative schemes including programmes similar to NICEEE, keeping in view the available infrastructure, state of preparedness in the country and suitability to Indian Industries for carrying out the objectives of the Energy Conservation Act.

Shooting Down of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle in J and K

*100. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: